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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,362	03/26/2004	Mitsunori Naruse	250936US2	7569
22850	7590	11/03/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.				DAVIS, OCTAVIA L
1940 DUKE STREET				
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2855		

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AFC

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/809,362	NARUSE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Octavia Davis	2855

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 3-5 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/26/04, 10/20/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group II, claims 3 - 5 in the reply filed on 9/12/05 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the grounds that the examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner. This is not found persuasive because the first grouping of claims, 1 and 2, more defines the function of the "*stop mechanism*" and the specific processing equation for determining the "maximum torsional angle" of the torsion bar. The second grouping of claims, 3 – 5, are directed to the structural configuration of "*stop portions*" located relative to the first and second elongated sleeves.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 1 and 2 to an invention non-elected with traverse in the reply filed on 9/12/05. Applicant is given ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the date of this letter, whichever is longer, to cancel the noted claims or take other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144). Failure to take action during this period will be treated as authorization to cancel the noted claims by Examiner's Amendment and pass the case to issue. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted since this application will be passed to issue.

The prosecution of this case is closed except for consideration of the above matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3 – 5 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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The primary reasons for allowance is that there cannot be ascertained prior art that anticipates or makes obvious the provision of “*stop portions*” in combination with the other limitations presented in claim 3.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kohno et al (2005/0065686) disclose an electric power steering apparatus and angle compensating method therefor.

Matsuura et al (6,935,194) disclose a dual resolver device.

Nagase et al (6,892,588) disclose a torque sensor.

Onoda et al (2005/0028613) disclose a torque sensor assembling method, torque sensor and electric power steering device.

Kobayashi et al (6,467,567) disclose a power steering apparatus.

Yamaguchi (6,901,816) discloses an apparatus and method for detecting absolute position using the difference between detection signals of two detectors.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Octavia Davis at telephone number (571) 272 - 2176. The examiner can normally be reached on Maxiflex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

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Edward Lefkowitz, can be reached on (571) 272 - 2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273 – 8300.



OD/2855

10/26/05